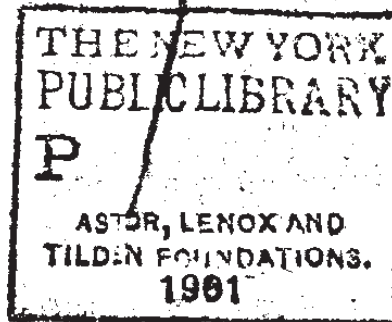




DUPLICATE.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

OF THE

NORTH AMERICAN FEDERATION

OF THE

International Workingmens Association,

ADOPTED BY THE FIRST ANNUAL CONGRESS

WHICH WAS HELD

On the 6th, 7th and 8th of July, 1872, in N. Y.

A. THE FEDERAL COUNCIL.

1. A Federal Council of the I. W. A. for North America consisting of nine members is to be elected by the Congress for one year, with power to add to its own number additional members not to exceed five.

2. If the convocation of a General Congress of the American Federation should not be deemed necessary for other reasons the F. C. may be elected for the ensuing year by a general vote of all Sections.

DUPLICATE.

3. The duties of the F. C. shall be:

- a. To organize and centralize the propaganda.
- b. To represent the organization at home and abroad.
- c. To collect the dues and transmit to the G. C. its share.
- d. To give a monthly report to the Local Committees and Sections as far as possible.
- e. To give a quarterly report of the financial condition of the organization.

4. The F. C. may refuse to admit, or may exclude from its midst, societies and branches. It is, however, not empowered to deprive them of their International character, but it may propose their suspension to the General Council.

5. The Federal Council shall be authorized to make such propositions from time to time as shall be deemed necessary, which propositions shall be binding if approved by a majority of the Sections within one month of their issue.

6. The Federal Council shall appoint one General Secretary who is to sign all documents and keep a correct copy of everything emanating from the F. C. for which he shall be held responsible.

7. The Federal Council shall give notice to the Sections two months previous to the Congress and also send in at that time the order of the day and the propositions for the Congress.

B. SECTIONS.

1. Ten persons speaking the same language, belonging to the working-class, shall be entitled to form a Section. In case there be another Section, speaking the same language within one mile, its permission shall be necessary for such formation. An appeal to the F. C. may be had, if such permission be refused. This rule shall not apply to Trades Unions.

2. Every Section must consist of at least three-fourth of wages laborers.

3. Newly formed Sections shall demand admission by transmitting to the F. C. the current years dues and a complete list of its members, giving their full name, residence and trade with remark whether wages laborer or not, also a formal resolution that they acknowledge and defend the principles and statutes of the I. W. A. and of the North American Federation, accompanied by a copy of its own statutes.

4. Sections shall be numbered by the Federal Council.

5. Sections are enjoined to keep within the proper sphere of action: "The organization and centralization of the laboring masses for protection, advancement and complete emancipation of the working classes.

6. Every Section may propose measures or resolutions of a general character to the Federal Council to be submitted to all other Sections within six weeks after receipt, if approved by the F. C.

An appeal from any decision or action of the F. C. may be taken by submitting the case:

a. To the Sections of which a majority shall decide.

b. To the annual Congress.

7. On the third Sunday of every month each Section shall transmit to the Local Committee, or—such L. C. not existing—to the Federal Council a faithful report of its proceedings and doings during the preceding four or five weeks with data of attendance at meetings and financial condition.

8. Every Section shall establish regular statistical researches on the condition of Workingmen and Labor on a uniform plan to be adopted by the Congress. Quarterly reports of the same shall be made to the resp. L. C. or F. C. and an elaborate annual report in the third week of June.

9. All Sections are invited to entertain good relations with the Trade Unions and to promote their formation.

C. LOCAL COMMITTEES.

1. Local Committees with appropriate powers shall be formed wherever more than one Section exists, whose aggregate membership is not less than fifty.

2. Sections of the same locality shall hold general joint meetings at least once every three months.

3. Every member of a Local Committee shall actually belong to the Section he represents.

D. DUES AND ASSESSMENTS.

1. An annual contribution of ten cents shall be paid by every member of the organization to the Federal Council. The dues to the General Council shall be extra.

2. The Federal Council shall have the power to make an extraordinary assessment of five cents on a member in case of emergency and if more be required to obtain the consent of the Sections.

3. All Sections are requested to found funds of assistance for the purpose of aiding all persecuted members, etc.

E. SPECIAL REGULATIONS.

1. All communications between Sections, Committees, etc., shall pass through the hands of the properly constituted authorities, that is the F. C. and L. C., except in case of grievances or complaints against said authorities. In the latter case due notice of it shall be given to the F. C. or L. C.

2. The same rule applies to the intercourse with the General Council.

3. All officers and authorities, Committees and Councils of the organization may be dismissed or removed at any time, by a general vote of their constituencies, such vote to be taken within two weeks after its demand by one-fourth of the number of their constituents.

4. In case of removal every member of the organization is entitled to membership in the nearest Section of the respective locality.

5. Expulsions from a Section shall have force for the whole organization, if approved by the resp. Local Committee and the Federal Council.

6. The principle of solidarity commands all members of the organization to support each other morally and materially in case of need. Such case of need, to be decided respectively by single Sections, Local Committees or the Federal Council.

7. This constitution may be altered by any annual Congress if two-thirds of the delegates agree thereto.
